

REMARKS

Applicant and the undersigned are most grateful for the time and effort accorded the instant application by the Examiner. The Office is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections presented in the outstanding Office Action in light of the following remarks.

Claims 1-37 were pending in the instant application at the time of the outstanding Office Action. Of these claims, Claims 1, 13, 25, and 37 are independent claims; the remaining claims are dependent claims. Claims 1, 2, 13, 14, 25 and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kuban et al. (hereinafter "Kuban"). Claims 3-12, 15-24, and 26-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuban and Crawford, Jr. (hereinafter "Crawford"). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the present rejections is hereby respectfully requested.

The present invention broadly contemplates a method whereby hospital room information is visually displayed, thereby aiding hospital staff in comprehending the hospital bed information. (Page 4, lines 1-3) In accordance with at least one presently preferred embodiment, the present invention utilizes the capabilities of computer to graphically display selected information in a manner which conveys the information to hospital staff in a form which aids in comprehension of the information. (Page 3, lines 11-14) Specifically, the information is preferably conveyed for multiple patient units through the use of matrix type format. A cell is used to represent each room in patient units being displayed. (Page 3, lines 14-16) Components of the cell indicate key

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considerations for every bed control or admitting department. Additional information may also be displayed by clicking a component of an cell. (Page 3, lines 16-18)

As presently best understood, Kuban appears to be directed to a method and apparatus for room status, for timekeeping and for wake-up communication. (Col. 1, lines 26-26) Status information appears to be sent to a "system manager location" at which room status information "can be tabulated and displayed for all the rooms in the hotel." (Col 4, lines 30-36) Fig. 3 is an exemplary screen of tabulated room status information and menu selections. (Col. 13, lines 6-7) This "tabulation", however, does not use cells.

The instantly claimed invention requires specifically a "cell conveying information regarding a room". (Claim 1) Similar language appears in the other independent claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Kuban falls short of the present invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the applied art does not anticipate the present invention because, at the very least, "[a]nticipation requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference of each element of the claim under construction." W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc. v. Garlock, 721 F.2d 1540, 1554 (Fed. Cir. 1983); see also In re Marshall, 198 U.S.P.Q. 344, 346 (C.C.P.A. 1978).

The Office also rejected certain claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kuban in combination with Crawford, asserting "it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art ... to modify the remote monitoring system of Kuban to include the focused information screen as did Crawford." (Office Action at 5) There is, however,

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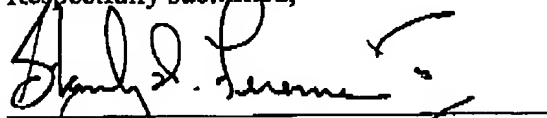
absolutely no teaching or suggestion in Crawford that would lead one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Kuban to arrive at the present invention.

By virtue of dependence from what are believed to be allowable independent Claims 1, 13, and 25, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 2-12, 14-24, and 26-36 are also presently allowable.

The "prior art of record" has been reviewed. Applicant acknowledges that such prior art was not deemed by the Office to be sufficiently relevant as to have been applied against the claims of the instant application. To the extent that the Office may apply such prior art against the claims in the future, Applicant will be fully prepared to respond thereto.

In summary, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application, including Claims 1-37, is presently in condition for allowance. Notice to the effect is hereby earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Stanley D. Ference III
Registration No. 33,879

Customer No. 35195
FERENCE & ASSOCIATES
400 Broad Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15143
(412) 741-8400
(412) 741-9292 - Facsimile

Attorneys for Applicants